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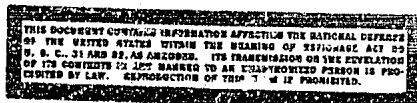
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CCP INSTRUCTOR TRAINING IN PARTY HISTORY  
WITH EMPHASIS ON CHINESE PROBLEMS AND MAO TSE-TUNG'S SOLUTIONS

On 20 May 1952, the Party Life Section of the Peiping Jan-min Jih-pao was devoted to a discussion of the experiences gained by a group of cadres selected for and sent through a training school for instructors in CCP history. This training was in preparation for the opening of a Party History Study campaign in North China. The general course of study outlined is noteworthy for its emphasis on Chinese revolutionary history and the political writings of Mao Tse-tung. In this respect, the statement -- under Section 4 in the text below -- that there must be points of emphasis in this study and that higher levels had directed that this emphasis be put on the CCP and the Chinese bourgeoisie may reveal a desire to highlight Chinese problems, Chinese conditions, and Mao Tse-tung's solutions. The role that the formulations of Lenin and Stalin on the Chinese Revolution will play in this study program in comparison with the theories and solutions of Mao Tse-tung appears to be small.

The full text of the Party Life Section is as follows:

From mid-November 1951 to the end of February 1952, the Propaganda Department of the East China Bureau, Central Committee, CCP, detached a group of cadre propagandists from their respective provincial and municipal party committees and started a period of training classes for instructors in CCP history.

The procedure followed in these classes was first to undertake research in party history and then study the ideology of Mao Tse-tung. The method followed by the leaders of these classes was to point out the highlights of the various periods in CCP history and then permit the instructor trainees to carry out research on the works of Mao Tse-tung at various periods and to collate several of his important essays. Also, the necessary reports and answers to questions were made by leadership comrades. Instructor trainees were then organized to carry out discussions.

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During the 3½-month course, the instructor trainees carried out research on the history of the party's birth and the struggle of all groups in the nation, studied Mao Tse-tung's theory on the Chinese Revolution, began to learn how to analyze problems from the events of a historical period, and criticized their earlier tendencies toward doctrinairism. Their mode of thinking underwent a definite elevation; the instructor trainees consequently found in the works of Mao Tse-tung even greater interest and jointly demonstrated their desire to continue studying his ideology.

While engaged in this study, the instructor trainees first grasped the method and experience of studying party history to gain the necessary preparation for opening a Party History Study campaign in the North China region. During the training period, it was found that the experiences gained in conducting party history studies embodied the following four points:

1. The study procedure -- carrying out research in party history in order to advance to a study of the ideology of Mao Tse-tung -- is entirely correct. This is so because the history of our party is the history of the victory of the Chinese Revolution -- of the victory of the ideology of Mao Tse-tung. The history of the CCP adequately proves that in the course of the Chinese Revolution for the New Democracy, when all party leaders comprehended the ideology of Mao Tse-tung, the revolution went forward; when they did not, it was defeated or retarded. Party history also tells us that at the time when the revolution was defeated or retarded, all that was necessary was the direction of Comrade Mao Tse-tung to turn defeat quickly into victory. For this reason, if this procedure is not followed in the study of the ideology of Mao Tse-tung, then the significance of the study of party history will be lost.

This study procedure is grasped easily by students, but in the practical implementation of the procedure there are many problems which must be solved if it is to be effected fully. In the trial period of study, the instructor trainees wanted to seek out the secret materials from party history. Some raised all kinds of annoying questions and were not satisfied with the study materials assigned. A few comrades, regardless of their inability to digest materials, searched out mixed and disordered materials to read, but were unable to correlate and thoroughly understand them or to distinguish between a correct and an incorrect concept. This resulted not only in a waste of time and energy, but also made their thinking even more confused. The comrades in charge of this training class corrected these errors with firmness, explained the insignificant and unanswered questions in the study of the ideology of Mao Tse-tung, and immediately overcame tendencies not to distinguish the important from the unimportant, the right from the wrong, and tendencies to seek out disordered materials. In the course of research on various periods of party history, they pointed out that all questions must be viewed in the light of the conditions prevailing, party tasks and goals, the enumerations of Mao Tse-tung (in posing and solving problems), and even the errors of the opportunists. This method gradually led the group to a correct study attitude and a comprehension of the correct study procedure.

2. Before formal study of party history, instructor trainees must study On Practice as an aid in attaining the key to research in party history. (On Contradictions by Mao Tse-tung has just been republished. It ought to be more fully studied prior to a study of party history and used as an ideological weapon for the observation, research, and analysis of the important events of various periods in the history of the Chinese Revolution.)

3. There must be an integration of theory with reality and the start of an ideological struggle to be used for a deeper comprehension of the questions of party history. The study of party history is definitely not for the

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purpose of a "sure" study of history, but rather to remodel thinking. For example, when studying the history of the first national revolutionary war, some comrades thought it strange that the opportunists made mistakes and could not understand these errors. But after integrating their thinking with research, they were able to see clearly that those nonpartisans -- the onlookers and the idealists -- are capable of mistakes anytime and anywhere.

When studying the history of the Japanese War and the third national revolutionary war, all instructor trainees recognized that this was a historical event personally encountered: everything was perfectly clear. But as soon as they integrated their thinking with an inspection of materials, they discovered that they had many unsolved problems and that they had solved other problems incorrectly. Because of this, the integration of their thinking with inspection of materials was a great help in comprehending the ideology of Mao Tse-tung. Also, if the ideology of Mao Tse-tung is to be understood, it is necessary to integrate study with a rigid organization of personal living habits and employ constantly the technique of criticism and self-criticism in order to ensure a correct study attitude.

4. The study of party history must have points of emphasis. It includes all aspects of the theories of Marxism-Leninism and all aspects of Mao Tse-tung's theories. Since these are so rich in content, it would be impossible (especially during such a short training course) to demand that all be mastered at once. At first, leaders of the training class did not fully recognize this problem and although they had repeated and extended study periods, the desired result was still not achieved among their pupils. Finally, higher levels ordered that, for the present, research must be concentrated on the question of the relationship between the CCP and the Chinese bourgeoisie and, from the historical viewpoint, on the affectation of the Chinese bourgeoisie in various periods and the party's policy toward the bourgeoisie. Afterward, all groups must be taught correctly to control the nature of the bourgeoisie in order to comprehend and correctly probe the party's policy of unity and struggle.

The results of the work have been highly successful. An important method for the future teaching of party history was given to all areas of the country. The adequate execution of preparatory work (for example, preparing necessary research materials and inviting persons willing to answer questions and make reports) is absolutely necessary to ensure efficient classes for training instructors in party history.

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